



1/26/2005  
PATENT  
Docket No. 325772021900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Koji TSUKATA

Serial No.: 09/781,197

Filing Date: February 13, 2001

For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

Examiner: N. Worku

Group Art Unit: 2626

Confirmation No. 8788

**CONFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

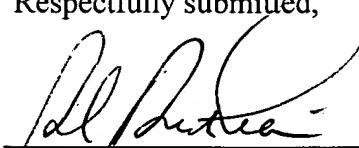
Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing this application. The Examiner did not, however, acknowledge receipt of the certified copy of the priority document in this application, which Applicants submitted on April 10, 2001. Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner review the file and confirm receipt of the certified copy of Applicant's prior Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-035038, filed February 14, 2000.

If there any questions regarding this request, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952**, referencing Docket No. **325772021900**.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
Barry E. Bretschneider  
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Dated: February 15, 2005

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